CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1.   A system to forward electronic mails for disabled accounts in a data communication network, comprising:

5   a server, within the data communication network, to receive data from a database, to host forwarding searches, and to perform forwarding actions; and

a database, in communication with the server within the data communication network, that enters, updates, and maintains source and destination electronic mail addresses for forwarding; wherein the system is adapted to:

10   receive a registration of an electronic mail account of a user to forward to a new electronic mail address;

send a confirmation electronic mail with a required password to the user;

receive an electronic mail message from a sender that specifies the user's electronic mail account as a recipient;

15   search for the new electronic mail address for the user for forwarding; and

forward the electronic mail message to the new electronic mail address.

2.   The system of claim 1, wherein the data communication network includes at least one of the Internet and an Intranet.

3.   The system of claim 1, wherein the user's electronic mail account is disabled after

20   the registration.

4.   The system of claim 1, wherein the server forwards an electronic mail address of the sender to the user.

5.   The system of claim 4, wherein the user responds to one of the sender directly and to the sender indirectly through the server.

6.   The system of claim 1, wherein the user's new electronic mail address is made unavailable to the sender.

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7.   The system of claim 1, wherein the electronic mail message from the sender is forwarded to the user's electronic mail account, if the new electronic mail address is not found.

8.   The system of claim 7, wherein the sender receives an electronic mail message indicating that the sender's electronic mail message is undeliverable if the user's electronic mail account is no longer reachable.

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9.   The system of claim 1, wherein the sender receives an electronic mail message from the user informing the sender that the sender's electronic mail message was forwarded.

10.   An electronic mail forwarding system for disabled accounts comprising a computer readable medium and a computer readable program code stored on the computer readable medium having instructions to:

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receive a registration of an electronic mail account of a user to forward to a new electronic mail address;

send a confirmation electronic mail with a required password to the user;

receive an electronic mail message from a sender that indicates the user's electronic mail account as a recipient;

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search a database for the new electronic mail address of the user for forwarding;

forward the electronic mail message to the new electronic mail address;

make available an electronic mail address of the sender to the user;

dispatch the electronic mail message to the user's electronic mail account, if the new electronic mail address is not found; and

send an electronic mail message to the sender indicating that the sender's electronic mail message to user is undeliverable.

5   11.   The system of claim 10, wherein the instructions are provided to a server to host forwarding searches and to execute forwarding actions.

12.   The system of claim 10, wherein the instructions are provided to a database to input, monitor, and update an electronic mail address for forwarding.

13.   The system of claim 12, wherein the user's electronic mail account is disabled

10   after the database receives instructions to input the electronic mail account.

14.   The system of claim 10, wherein the user has an option of responding directly to the sender's electronic mail address.

15.   The system of claim 11, wherein the user has an option of responding indirectly to the sender through the server.

15   16.   The system of claim 10, wherein the sender is informed that the electronic mail message of the sender has been delivered to the new electronic mail address of the user.

17.   A method of forwarding electronic mails for a disabled account over a data communication network, comprising:

receiving a registration of an electronic mail account of a user to forward to a new

20   electronic mail address;

receiving an electronic mail message from a sender that specifies the user's electronic mail account as a recipient;

searching for the new electronic mail address of the user for forwarding;

forwarding the electronic mail message to the new electronic mail address;

providing an electronic mail address of the sender to the user;

forwarding the electronic mail message to the user's electronic mail account, if the new

electronic mail address is not found; and

5   sending an electronic mail message to the sender indicating that the sender's electronic

mail message to user is undeliverable.

18.   The method of claim 17, wherein the data communication network includes at

least one of the Internet and an Intranet.

19.   The method of claim 17, wherein a server, having circuitry to receive data from a

10   database, performs forwarding searches and provides forwarding actions.

20.   The method of claim 19, wherein the database enters, updates, and maintains

electronic mail addresses for forwarding.

21.   The method of claim 17, wherein a confirmation electronic mail with a password

is sent to the user after user the registration.

15   22.   The method of claim 17, wherein the user's electronic mail account is disabled

after user registration.

23.   The method of claim 19, wherein the user responds to one of the sender directly

and to the sender indirectly through the server.

24.   The method of claim 17, wherein the user's new electronic mail address may be

20   made unavailable to the sender.

25.   The method of claim 17, wherein the sender receives an electronic mail message

from the user that informs the sender that the sender's electronic mail message was forwarded.

26. The method of claim 19, wherein the sender receives an electronic mail message from a server that informs the sender that the sender's electronic mail message was forwarded to the user.